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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4709  
INFO RUEHKK/ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 000058

SIPDIS

FOR NEA/ELA AND DRL/NESCA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/11/2030

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [KDEM](#) [ELAB](#) [SOCI](#) [EG](#)

SUBJECT: COURT SENTENCES JOURNALISTS TO PRISON FOR DEFAMING

POPULAR ACTORS

REF: A. CAIRO 50 B. 09 CAIRO 1971 C. 04 CAIRO 1708 Classified By: Economic-Political Minister-Counselor Donald A. Blome for reason 1.4 (d).

1.(U) On January 6, a Cairo court sentenced the editor of the defunct weekly tabloid newspaper "Al-Balagh Al-Gadid" and a journalist from the p

2.(C) Hafez Abu Seada, Secretary-General of the Egyptian Organization for Human Rights which monitored the trial, described the case as a non-p

3.(C) Comment: It appears that the jail sentences in this non-political case resulted from a combination of factors: poor reporting, an incompe